

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-31 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 14, 18, 27 and 29 are independent. New claim 31 has been added for consideration by the Examiner. No new matter has been added by the addition of new claim 31. In light of the amendments and remarks made herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

By this amendment, Applicants have amended the claims to more appropriately recite the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are being made without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejections.

Examiner Interview

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the productive Interview conducted on January 25, 2008. During the Interview, the parties discussed the currently amended claimed invention and the teachings of the cited art. The parties agreed that the amendments overcame the current rejections. The parties further discussed possible 35 U.S.C. §101 issues regarding claims 27 and 29.

Based on the agreement made during the Interview, Applicant respectfully requests the outstanding rejections be withdrawn. Further, Applicant has amended claims 27 and 29 to more appropriately recite the present invention.

Conclusion

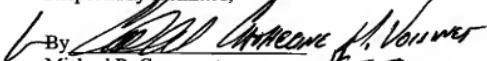
In view of the above, it is believed that claims are allowable.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinet, Reg. No. 52,327 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 28, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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